

Geranium Plant Named 'Fisblipur'

Genus and Species of the Plant Claimed:

Hybrid of *Pelargonium peltatum* L'Héritier

Variety Denomination:

5 'Fisblipur'

Background of the Invention

The present invention comprises a new and distinct cultivar of geranium, botanically known as *Pelargonium peltatum*, and hereinafter referred to by the cultivar name 'Fisblipur'.

10 'Fisblipur' is a product of a planned breeding program which had the objective of creating new ivy geranium cultivars with single-type flowers, zoned foliage, and relatively vigorous, but well-branched growth habit, in various flower colors.

'Fisblipur' originated from a hybridization made by the inventor, Angelika Utecht, in a controlled breeding program in Galdar, Gran Canaria, Spain, in 1998.

15 The female parent was the commercial variety 'Fisbliz' (U.S. Plant Patent No. 9,373), having white single-type flowers, medium green foliage with weak zonation, vigorous growth and long trailing plant habit. The male parent of 'Fisblipur' was the unpatented hybrid seedling no. 95/810-1, characterized by red, semi-double flowers, foliage with relatively strong zonation, and about medium growth habit.

20 'Fisblipur' was selected as one flowering plant within the progeny of the stated cross by Angelika Utecht in 1999 in a controlled environment in Moncarapacho, Portugal.

The first act of asexual reproduction of 'Fisblipur' was accomplished when vegetative cuttings were taken from the initial selection in the fall of 1999 in a

controlled environment in Moncarapacho, Portugal, Spain, by, or under the supervision of, Angelika Utecht.

Horticultural examination of plants grown from cuttings of the plant initiated in May 2000 in HILLSCHIED, Federal Republic of Germany, and continuing thereafter,
5 has demonstrated that the combination of characteristics as herein disclosed for 'Fisblipur' are firmly fixed and are retained through successive generations of asexual reproduction.

'Fisblipur' has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary significantly with variations in environment such as
10 temperature, light intensity and day length.

Brief Summary of the Invention

The following observations, measurements, and comparisons describe plants grown in HILLSCHIED, Germany, under greenhouse conditions which approximate those
15 generally used in commercial practice.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be basic characteristics of 'Fisblipur' in combination distinguish this geranium as a new and distinct cultivar :

1. Brilliant, purple colored, single-type flowers;
- 20 2. Big inflorescences with relatively many, large flowers;
3. Deep green foliage with distinct zonation;
4. Vigorous growth, trailing, but very well-branched plant habit; and
5. About medium (mid season) spring flowering response.

Of the many commercial cultivars known to the present inventor, none is very
25 close in comparison.

Brief Description of the Drawings

The accompanying photographic drawing shows typical flower and foliage characteristics of 'Fisblipur' with colors being as true as possible with an illustration of this type. The photographic drawing shows a branch end of 'Fisblipur' with leaves, buds and inflorescences (on the _____); and a 'Fisblipur' plant in a hanging basket (on the _____).

Detailed Botanical Description

In the following description color references are made to the Royal Horticultural Society Color Chart. The color values were determined indoors from plants growing in a green-house in May 2003, in Hillscheid, Germany. The measurements were taken in Hillscheid, Germany, in mid May 2003, 15 weeks after planting of rooted cuttings. The plants were growing in 14 cm pots; they had been pinched once.

INFLORESCENCE

Umbel:

Shape:	Irregular to nearly semi-spherical
Average diameter:	131 mm
Average depth:	65-70 mm
Peduncle length:	205 mm
Peduncle color:	Light green, RHS 143 C
Pedice:	46 mm in length, occasionally with a spur near the base of the flower

Pedicle color: Light green, RHS 144 B, usually no anthocyanin (no brownish hue)

Number of flowers per umbel: About 12-16

Corolla:

- 5 Average diameter: 56 mm
- Form: Single-type
- Shape: Round outline, with the upper petals about the same size as the lower petals, petals not overlapping
- Number of petals: Mostly 5, occasionally 6-7
- 10 Number of petaloids: None
- Shape of petals: Obovate, base acute or attenuate, upper end is rounded, margin is entire or slightly crenate
- Size of petals: Upper petals: 29-30 mm long, 20-21 mm wide
Lower petals: 24-25 mm long, 19-21 mm wide
- 15 Color (general tonality from a distance of three meters): Brilliant purple, uniform
- Color of upper petals: Closest to RHS N66 A
- Markings of upper petals: 2 dark purple veins, RHS N77 A
- Color of lower petals: Between RHS N66 A and RHS N66 B, turning more bluish, closest to RHS 74 B
- 20 Markings of lower petals: None
- Color of lower surface of petals: Approximately RHS 61 C
- Color of sepals: Outer, visible lower surface: light green, RHS 143 C;
inner surface: light green, RHS 144 A
- 25 Number of sepals: 5

Shape of sepals: Linear to lanceolate, acute tip, truncate base, surface
with weak pubescence, margin entire

Size of sepals: 12-13 mm long, 5 mm wide for the largest upper sepal,
3 mm in width for the other sepals

5 Bud: (just prior to petals unfolding)

Shape: Narrow, elliptical

Color of sepals: Light green, RHS 143 C

Color of petals: RHS 61 B

Length: 21 mm

10 Width: 7 mm

REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS:

Androecium: 7 fertile anthers, plenty pollen, yellow-orange, RHS 28
A, lower side of anthers blackish, RHS 187 A, filaments
15 white, RHS 155 D, to light-pink, RHS 52 D

Gynoecium: One pistil, whitish style, RHS 155 D to 65 D, stigma 5-
6-lobed stigma, dark purple, RHS 59 B

Fertility/seed set: Relatively little for a single-type flowered variety,
mainly from late summer to fall

20 Fruit: Oblong, about 6 mm wide, rostrum (beak) 38-42 mm
long

Seed: Oblong, 4-5 mm long, brown, RHS 177 B

Spring flowering response period: In Hilscheid, Germany, in 2001 plants had on
average 0.4 flowers opened 12 weeks after
25 planting of rooted cuttings (pinched plants)

Outdoor flower production: Continuously and moderately rich flowering, the
flower count in 2003 in Hillscheid, Germany,
indicated about 3 inflorescence per plant in mid
May

5 Durability Good stability of flower color, little fading, good rain resistance

Lastingness of the individual flower: About 7 days at 18°C

Fragrance: None

PLANT

10 Foliage :

Shape: Ivy-shaped, with cordate base, with the gap between the lowest
lobes closed to overlapping, apex rounded with weak to
moderate lobes

Margin: Entire, slightly wavy

15 Texture: Upper surface smooth, dull or slightly glossy

Size of leaf: 82 mm wide, about 50 mm long

Color of upper surface: Medium green, closest to RHS 137 C to 137 D

Color of zonation: Brown, closest to RHS 166 A, distinctness: medium to
strong

20 Color of lower surface: RHS 143 C

Petiole: 85 mm long, 2-3 mm diameter, light green in color, closest to
RHS 143 B

General appearance and form:

Stem color: Light green, RHS 143 B

25 Internode length: 45-70 mm

Branching pattern: 13 branches on average,

Size of plants: 28.5 cm (15 week-old plants, as described), and
100 cm (30 week-old plants, around Sept.1), measured
from the top of the soil (base of the main stem) to the
tips of the branches, without inflorescences

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